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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Like Will To Like

By ULPIAN FULWELL

Date of Earliest Recorded Edition, 1568

Date of Original of this Edition, 1587

[*B.M. Press-mark*, C. 34, *c.* 36]

Reproduced in Facsimile, 1909

Like Will to Like

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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

[Vol. 32]

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

Like Will To Like

By ULPIAN FULWELL

1587

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The original is in the British Museum (Press-mark, C. 34, c. 36), and is correctly described in the "Catalogue of Books in British Museum printed in England before 1640," *as "cropped by the binder." This copy of the* 1587 *edition was supposed to be unique until another example similarly dated turned up in the Mostyn sale at Sotheby's (May* 31*st and June* 1*st,* 1908), *realising £*101 *(Quaritch). I have not been able to compare the two copies, but if the sale-catalogue is to be trusted the two are not quite identical, as the Mostyn copy is said to end with "Finis q^d Ulysian Fulwell," whereas the B.M. example has "*Vlpian Fulwell": *I suspect, however, an easily-made mis-reading of manuscript in the sale catalogue.*

The Mostyn copy is described as "perfect and in good state," except that "one head-line and a few front marginal notes are slightly cut into." The general condition of the British Museum example is anything but good. Mr. R. B. Fleming, the technical photographer charged with the collotype reproduction of this series, states that "every page of the original is more or less blurred." He adds, in response to my direct and special enquiry, "considering the unsatisfactory condition of

the original copy the result in this facsimile reprint is as good as could possibly have been obtained."

Mr. J. A. Herbert of the Manuscript Department of the British Museum generally confirms Mr. Fleming's report. In some places—I will particularise hereafter—he says "*the stained pages are slightly worse than in original. This may be quite unavoidable in the present state of photographic science. Otherwise the reproduction is excellent.*"

In this connection it must be remembered that no "*faking*" *or* "*touching up*" *of the original is permitted; and, with this proviso, special criticism and notes are tendered as follows:—*

(1) *Title-page, the* verso *is blank in the old copy.*

(2) [A. iij.] verso, *line* 8 *from bottom, there is no flaw in the initial* "I" *in the original.*

(3) A. iiij. verso *to* B. ij. recto, B. iij. verso, D. iij. verso, *and* D. iiij. recto, "*the stains in parts of these pages are slightly darker than in original.*" *In particular may be cited* B. j. recto, *first six lines*—B. j. verso, *lines* 22, 29, *and* 31—B. ij. recto, *lines* 12, 13, 18 (*the last three words are* ſo faine haue), 21, 22, *and* 29 *to* 33: *on the other hand the speakers' names on lines* 31 *to* 33 *are* "*too faint and spotty*" [*they are*] "*quite clear in original*"—B. iij. verso, *lines* 17, 19, 23, *and* 33—B. iiij. verso, *line* 1—C. ij. verso, *line* 2 (*first word*), *and line* 3 (*first two words*)—C. iij. verso, *lines* 22, 30, 31, 32—[C. iiij.] recto, *line* 5 *from bottom* (*the*

words "I to you")—[C. iiij.] verso, *last line* —D. iij. verso, *last two lines* (*the words* "hope not them" *and* "for to win"—D. iiij. recto (*the three stanzas at head of page*)—E. ij. verso, *line* 17—E. iij. recto, *line* 17—[F. ij.] recto, *line* 4 (*second word*).

Little is known of the author beyond his name: see "Dictionary of National Biography." Two other productions of his pen are, however, extant: (1) "*The Flower of Fame*," *and* (2) "*Ars Adulandi, the Art of Flattery*," *&c.*

JOHN S. FARMER.

A pleasant Enterlude,

intituled, Like will to Like quoth the Deuill to the Collier. Wherin is declared what punishments followe those that will rather liue licentiously: then esteeme and followe good Councell. And what benefits they receiue that apply them selues to vertuous liuing and good exercises.

Made by Vlpian Fulwel.

Fiue may easily play this Enterlude.

The Prologue. Tom. Tospot. Hākin hangman. Tom Collier. } For one.	Haunce. Vertuous Life. Gods Promise. Cutbert cutpurs } For one.
Lucifer. Rafe Roister. Good Fame. Seuentie. } For one.	Philip Fleming. Pierce pickpurs Honour. } For one.

Nichol Newfangle the Vice.

LONDON
Printed by Edward Allde, and are to be Solde at the Long Shop adioyning vnto Sainte Mildreds Church in the Pultrie. 1587.

Cicero in his book de amicitia these wordes doth expresse,
Saying nothing is more desirous then like is vnto like:
Whose wordes are most true and of a certainty doubtles,
For the vertuous do not the vertuous company mislike.
But the vicious doth the vertuous company eschue:
And like will vnto like this is most true.
It is not my meaning your eares for to wery,
with harkning what is the effect of our matter:
But our pretence is to moue you to be mery,
Merily to speak meaning no man to flatter.
The name of this matter as I said while ere,
is like will to like quod the Deuil to the Collier.
Sith pithie prouerbs in our English tung do abound,
Our author thought good such a one for to chuse:
As may shew good example and mirth may eke be found,
But no lasciuious toyes he purposeth to vse,
Herin as it were in a glasse see you may:
the aduauncement of vertue and of vice the decay,
To what ruin ruffins and roisters are brought,
you may here see of them the finall end:
Begging is the best though that end be naught.
But hanging is worse if they do not amend.
The vertuous life is brought to honor and dignitie:
And at the last to euerlasting eternitie.
And because diuers men of diuers mindes be,
Some do matters of mirth and pastime require:
Other some are delighted with matters of grauitie.
to please all men is our authors chefe desire.
wherfore mirth with mesure to sadnes is annexed,
Desiring that none here at our matter will be parplexed.
Thus as I said I will be short and breef,
Because that from this dump you shall releeued be:

And the Deuil with the Colier, the thæf that ſeeks the thæf,
Shall ſon make you merry as ſhortly you ſhall ſæ.
And ſith mirth for ſadnes is a ſauce moſt ſwæt:
take mirth then with meaſure that beſt ſauceth it.

FINIS.

Heer entreth Nichol Newfangle the vice laughing, and hath a knaue of clubs in his hand which aſſooon as he ſpeaketh: he offreth vnto one of the men or boyes ſtanding by.

¶ Ha, ha, ha, ha, now like vn to like it wil be none other,
Stoup gentle knaue and take vp your brother.
Why is it ſo? and is it euen ſo indæd?
why then may I ſay God ſend vs good ſpæd,
And is euery one hær ſo greatly vnkinde,
that I am no ſoner out of ſight but quite out of minde.
Mary this wil make a man euen wæp for woe,
that on ſuch a ſodain no man wil him knowe.
Though men be ſo dangerous now at this day,
Yet are women kinde wormis I dare wel ſay.
How ſay you woman you that ſtand in the Angle,
were you neuer acquainted with Nichol newfangle?
Then I ſæ Nichol newfangle is quite forgot,
Yet you wil know me anon, I dare ieopard a grote.
Nichol newfangle is my name, do you me not knowe?
my whole education to you I wil ſhowe.
For firſt before I was born I remember very well,
that my grandſier and I made a iourney into hell.
Where I was bound prentice before my natiuitie,
to Lucifer him ſelf ſuch was mine agilitie.
All kinde of ſciences he taught vnto me,
that to the maintenance of pride might beſt agræ.
I learned to make gowns with long ſlæues and winges:
I learnd to make ruffs like Calues chitterlings.
Caps, Hats, Cotes and all kinde of apparails,

And

And especially Breeches as big as good barrels.
Shoes, Boots, Buskins, with many pritty toyes,
All kinde of garments for men, women and boyes.
Know ye me not now I thought that at the last,
All acquaintance from Nichol newfangle is not past.
Nichol newfangle was and is and euer shalbe,
And there are but few that are not acquainted with me.
For so soon as my prentilhood was once come out,
I went by and by the whole world about.

Heer the Deuil entreth but speaketh not yet.

Sancte benedicite, who haue we here?
Tom tumbler or els some dauncing beare,
Body of me it were best goe no nere,
For ought that I see it is my Godfather Lucifer.
Whose prentice I haue been this many a day,
But no more words but mum, you shall heare what he wil say

This name Lucifer, must be written on his back and on his brest.

¶ Howe mine own boy I am glad that thou art here, L
‡ He speaketh to you sir, I pray you come ner. pointing to one N
‡ May ÿ art euen he of whō I am wel appaid. standing by. L
¶ Then speak alowd, to come nie I am afraid. N
¶ Why so my boy as though thou didst neuer see me? L
¶ Yes godfather but I am afraid it is now as often times it is N
For if my dame & ÿ hast been tumbling by the eares, (with thee
As oftentimes you dow like a couple of great beares.
Thou carest not whom thou killest in thy raging minde,
Dost not thou remember since thou bruisedst me behinde?
This hole in thy fury didst thou disclose:
that now may a tent be put in as big as thy nose.
this was when my dame called thee bottle nosed knaue:

But

But I am like to cary the mark to my graue,
¶ Oh my good boy be not afraid,
For no such thing hath happened as thou hast saide.
But come to me my boye and blesse thee I wil,
And see that my precepts thou dow fulfill.
‡ Wel Godfather if you will say ought to me in this case,
Speak for in faith I meane not to kneell to that ill face.
If our Lady Walsingham had no fairer face and visage,
By the masse they were fooles that would goe to her on pil-
¶ Wel boy it shall not greatly skil: (gremage.
Whether thou stand or whether thou kneele.
thou knowest what sciences I haue thee taught,
Which are able to bring the world to nought,
For thou knowest that through pride from heauen I was cast:
Euen vnto hell wherfore see thou make haste.
Such pride through new fashions in mens harts for to sowe.
that those that vse it may haue the like ouerthrowe.
From vertue procure men to set their minds aside:
And wholy imploy it to all sinne and pride.
Let thy new fangled fashions bear such a sway:
That a rascall be as proud as he that best may.
¶ Tush, tush, that is alredy brought to passe,
For a very skip-iack is prouder I were by the mas,
And seeketh to goe more gayer and braue:
then doth a Lord though himselfe be a knaue.
‡ I can thee thank that so wel thou hast plaid thy part,
Such as do so shall son feel the smart.
Sith that thou hast thus done, there remaineth behinde,
that thou in a nother thing shewe thy right kinde.
¶ Then good Godfather let me heare thy minde.
¶ Thou knowest that I am bothe proud and arrogant,
And with the proud I wil euer be conuersant.
I cannot abide to see men that are vicious,

accompany

Accompany themselues with such as be vertuous.
Wherfore my minde is sith thou thy part canst play,
that thou adioyne like to like alway.
¶ I neuer loued that wel I swere by this day,
¶ What my boy?
¶ Your minde is sith I fast thre meales euery good friday.
that I eat nothing but Onions and leekes alway.
¶ Nay my minde is sith thou thy part canst play:
that thou adioyne like to like alway.
¶ Tush, tush godfather Deuil for that haue thou no care,
thou knowest that like wil to like quod the deuil to the Collier.
And thou shalt see that such a match I shall make anon:
That thou shalt say I am thy good good sweet sweet godson.
¶ I wil giue thee thanks when thou hast so don.

Heer entreth the Colier.

¶ Wel Godfather no more words but mum,
For yonder comes the Collier as semeth me,
By the mas he wil make a good mate for thee.
what olde acquaintance shall remembraunce,
welcome to town with a very vengeance.
Now welcome Tom Colier giue me thy hand:
As very a knaue as any in England.
¶ By masse god amercy my frend Nichol,
¶ By God and welcome ientle tom lick hole,
¶ Cham glad to zee thee mery my frend nickol,
and how dost thou now a dayes good nickole.
¶ And nothing els but euen plain nichol?
‡ I pray thee tell me how dost good frend lick hole.
‡ It is turned from nichol to lick hole with tom Colier
I say no more tom but hold thy nose there.
¶ Nay hold thy tung nichol til my nose doth come:
So thou shalt take part and I shall take some.
‡ Wel tom Colier let these things passe away,

tel me what market thou hast made of thy coles to day,
¶ To euery Bushel cha zolde three peck,
Loe here be the empty zacks on my neck.
Cha begilde the whozsons that of me ha bought,
But to begile me was their whole thought.
¶ But hast thou no conscience to begile thy powre neighbour?
¶ No mary zo I may gain boz my labour.
It is a common trade now a daies this is plain,
to cut one anothers throte boz lucar and gaine.
A small baut as the world is now brought to passe.
¶ Thou art a good fellow I swere by the masse.
As fit a companion for the Deuil as may be,
Lo good father deuil this felow wil I match with thee.
¶ And good tom collier thou art welcom to me, he taketh him
‡ God a mercy good deuil chã glad of thy company. by the hand
¶ Like will to like I see very wel,
‡ Godfather wilt thou daunce a little before thou goe home to
¶ I am content so that tom collier dow agree. (hell
¶ I wil neuer refuse Deuil to daunce with thee.
¶ Then godfather name what the daunce shall be.
¶ Tom Colier of Croidon hath solde his cole,
¶ Why then haue at it by my fathers soule.

Nichol newfangle must haue a gitern or some other Instrument (if he may) but if they haue none they must daunce about the place all three, and sing this song that followeth, which must be doon though they haue an instrument.

The Song.

Tom Colier of Croidon hath solde his Coles,
and made his market to day.
And now he dauncth with the Deuil,
for like will to like alway.
¶ Wherfore let vs reioyce and sing,
let vs be mery and glad,

With

Sith that the Colier and the Deuill,
this match and daunce hath made.
¶ Now of this daunce we make an end,
with mirth and eke with ioy:
The Colier and the Deuill wil be,
much like to like alway. Finis.

¶ Aha, mary this is trim singing, Ni.
I had not thought the Deuil to be so cunning.
And by the mas Tom Colier is as good as he,
I see that like with like wil euer agree.
¶ Uarwel maister Deuil vor ich must be gone, Exit T.
¶ UWhy then farwel my gentle freend tom. Lu
¶ Farwel tom Colier a knaue be thy comfort, Ni.
How saist thou Godfather, is not this trim sport?
¶ thou art mine own boy, my blessing thou shalt haue, Lu
¶ By my troth Godfather that blessing I doo not craue. Ni.
But if you goe your way I wil doo my diligence,
Aswel in your absence as in your presence.
¶ But thou shalt salute me or I goe doutles,
that in thy doings thou maist haue the better successe. Lu
UWherfore kneel down and say after me,
¶ When ye deuil wil haue it so: it must needs so be. } he kneleth N.
what shal I say bottel nosed godfather canst ye tel? } downe.
¶ All haile Oh noble Prince of hel, Lu
¶ All my dames cow tailes fel down into the wel. Ni.
¶ I wil exalt thee aboue the clowdes, Lu
¶ I wil sault thee and hang thee in the shrowds. Ni.
¶ Thou art the inhauncer of my renowne, Lu
¶ Thou art haunce the hangman of Callis town, Ne
¶ To thee be honour alone, Lu
¶ To thee shall come our hobling Jone. Ne
* Amen. Lu
¶ Amen. Ne
¶ Now farwel my boy, farwel hartely, Lu

¶ Is there neuer a knaue hær will kæp the Deuil company?
Farwel godfather for thou must goe alone:
I pray thæ come hether again anon. Exit Lucifer.
Mary hære was a benediction of the Deuils good grace,
Body of me I was so afrayd I was like to bestench the place.
My buttocks made buttons of the new fashion.
While the whoreson Deuil was making his salutation.
But by the masse I am as glad as euer was madge mare:
That the whoreson Deuil is ioyned with the knaue Collar.
As fit a match as euer could be pickt out:
what saist thou Ione with the long snout.

Tom tospot commeth in with a fether in his Hat.

But who comes yonder puffing as whot as a black pudding,
I holde xx.li. it is a ruffin, if a Goose goe a gooding.
‡ Gogs hart and his guts is not this too bad?
Blood, woundes and nailes, it will make a man mad.
¶ I warant you hære is a iolly one bery braue:
I think anon he will throw him self a knaue.
‡ Many a mile haue I ridden and many a mile haue I gone:
Yet can I not finde for me a fit companion.
Many there be which my company would frequent,
If I do as they do I would be content.
They would haue me leaue off my pride and swearing,
My new fangled fashions and leaue of my wearing.
But rather then I such companions will haue:
I will sæ a thousand of them laid in their graue,
Similis similem sibi quærit, such a one do I sæk:
As vnto my self in euery condition is like.
¶ Sir you are welcome ye seem to be an honest man:
And I will help you in this matter as much as I can,
If you tary hær a while I tel you in good sooth,
I will finde one as fit for you as a pudding for a friers mouth.
‡ I thank you my frend for your gentle offer to me:

I pray you tell me what your name may be.
‡ We think by your apparell you haue had me in regard:
I pray you of Nichole newfangle haue you neuer heard?
‡ Nichole newfangle? why we are of olde acquaintance,
‡ By my troth your name is quite out of my remembrance.
‡ At your first comming into England wel I wot,
You were very wel acquainted with Tomtospot.
‡ Tom tospot? Sanctiamen, how you were out of my minde:
¶ You know whē you brought into englād this newfāgled kinde
That tospots and Ruffins with you were first acquainted,
‡ It is euen so Tom tospot as thou hast saide,
¶ It is an olde saying, that mountains and hills neuer meet,
But I see that men shall meet, though they do not seek,
And I promise you more ioy in my hart I haue found:
Then if I had gained an hundred pound.
‡ And I am as glad as one had giuen me a greate:
that I haue met with thee Tom tospot,
And seeing a mate thou wouldst so fain haue,
I will ioyne thee with one that shalbe as very a knaue:
as thou art thy selfe you may beleeue me:
thou shalt see anon what I will do for thee:
For you seek as very a knaue as you your selfe are:
For like will to like quod the Deuil to the Collar.
‡ Indeed Nichole newfangle ye say the veritie, ¶ Heer entreth
For like will to like it will none other wise be. ¶ Rafe Roister,
‡ Beholde Tom tospot euen in pudding time:
Yonder commeth Rafe Roister an olde freend of mine,
By the mas for thee he is so fit a mate:
As Tom and Tib for Kit and Kate.
Now welcome my freend Rafe roister by the mas.
‡ And I am glad to see you heere in this place.
‡ Bid him welcome, hark he can play a knaues part:
‡ My freend you are welcome with all my hart.

er. ¶ God a mercy good fellowe, tel me what thou art.
¶ As very a knaue as thou, though the best be to bad,
¶ I am one, which of thy company would be very glad.
er ¶ And I wil not your company refuse of a certaintie,
So that to my conditions your maners doo agree.
¶ It should appeere by your sayings ẏ we are of one mind,
For I knowe that roisters and tospots come of one kinde.
And as our names be much of one accord and much like,
So I think our condicions be not far vnlike.
er. ¶ If your name to me you will declare and showe:
You may in this matter my minde the sooner knowe.
¶ Few woords are best among freends this is true,
Wherfore I shall breefly shew my name vnto you.
Tom tospot it is, it need not be painted,
wherfore with Rafe Roister I must needs be acquainted.
¶ In faith Rafe Roister if thou wilt be ruled by me,
we wil daunce hand in hand like knaues all three.
It is as vnpossible for thee his company to deny:
As it is for a Cammel to creep through a needles eye.
therfore bid him welcome like a knaue as thou art,
ter. ¶ By my troth Tom tospot you are welcome with all my hart,
¶ I thank you that mine acquaintãce you wil take in good part.
And by my troth I wil be your sworn brother:
¶ Tush like wil to like it wil be none other.
For the vertuous wil alwaies the vertuous company seek out:
A Gentleman nener seeketh the company of a Lout.
And Roisters and Ruffians do sober company eschue:
For like wil euer to like this is moste true.
ster ¶ Now freend tom tospot seeing that we are bretheren sworne:
And neither of our companies from other may be forborne.
the whole trade of my life to thee I wil declare:
¶ And to tell you my properties also I shall not spare.
¶ Then my maisters if you will a while abide it:

Ye shall see two such knaues so liuely described.
that if hel should be raked euen by and by indeed:
Such another couple cannot be found I sweare by my creed.
Go to sirs say on your whole mindes:
And I shall paint you out in your right kindes.
First tom tospot, plead thou thy cause and thy name:
And I will sit in this chaire and giue sentence on the same.
I will play the Iudge and in this matter giue iudgement:
How say you my maisters are you so content?
¶ By my troth for my part therto I do agree. R
¶ I were to blame if any fault should be in me. T
¶ Then that I be in office neither of you do grudge? N
¶ No indeed: B.
¶ Where learned you to stand capt before a Iudge? N
You lowterly knaues, shew you all your manners at once.
¶ Why Nichole all we are content: R
¶ And am I plaine Nichole? and yet it is in my arbitrement? N
to Iudge which of you two is the veriest knaue:
I am maister Nichole Newfangle both gay and braue.
For seeing you make me your Iudge I trow we:
I shall teach you both your leripup to know we. He fighteth.
* Stay your self I pray you hartely. T
¶ I pray you be content and we will be more manerly. R
¶ Nay I cannot put vp such an iniury. N
For seing I am in office I will be known therfore. } He fighteth
Fend your heds sirs for for I will fight once more. } againe.
¶ I pray you be content good gentle maister Nichole, R
¶ I neuer saw the like by gogs soule. T
¶ Wel my maisters because you do intend: N
to learn good manners and your conditions to amend.
I will haue but one fit more and so make an end. } He fighteth
¶ I pray you sir let vs no more contend. } againe. R
¶ Mary this hath bethed me very wel: N

Now let me heare how you your tales can tel,
And I maister iudge wil so bring to passe:
that I wil iudge who shalbe knaue of Clubs at Christmas.
‡ Gogs wounds I am like Phalaris ẏ made a bul of brasse,
‡ Thou art like a false knaue now and euer more was.
‡ Nay I am like Phalaris that made a bul of brasse,
As a cruell torment for such as did offend:
and he him self first therin put was:
Euen so are we brought to this end.
In ordaining him a iudge who wil be honored as a God:
So for our own tailes we haue made a rod.
‡ And I am serued as Haman that preparde,
‡ How was he serued I pray thee doo me tel,
‡ Whom I speak of thou knowest not wel,
‡ Thou art serued as Hary hangman captain of the black garde,
‡ Nay I am serued as Haman that preparde.
A high paire of gallous for Mardocheus the Iew,
and was the first that theron was hanged:
So I feele the smart of mine owne rod this is true.
But heerafter I wil learn to be wise,
and ere I leap once I wil look twice.
‡ Wel Tom tospot first let me heare thee,
How canst thou proue thy self a verier knaue then he?
‡ You know that Tom tospot men doo me call,
‡ A knaue thou hast alwaies been and euer shall.
‡ My conditions I am sure ye know as wel as I,
‡ A knaue thou wast born and so shalt thou dye,
‡ But that you are a iudge I would say vnto you,
Knaues are Christen men els you are a iew.
‡ He calleth me knaue by craft, doo you not see?
Sirra I wil remember it when you think not on me.
Wel say what thou canst for thine own behoof:
If thou proue thy self the verier knaue by good proof.

Thou

Thou must be the elder brother and haue the patrimony,
And when he hath said then do thou reply.
Euen Thomas a watrings, or Tiburn hil:
to the falsest theef of you both by my fathers wil.
‡ I pray you sir what is that patrimony? R.I
‡ I pray you leaue your curtesie & I wil tel you by and by. N.
if he be the more knaue the patrimony he must haue,
But thou shalt haue it if þ proue thy self the verier knaue.
A peece of ground it is that on beggers manet doth holde:
and who so deserues it shal haue it ye may be bolde.
Called Saint Thomas a watrings or els Tiburn hil:
Giuen and so bequethed to the falsest knaue by wil.
¶ Then I trow I am he that this patrimony shal possesse, T.
For I am Tom tospot to vse this trade doutles.
From morning til night I sit tossing the black bole:
then come I home and pray for my fathers soule.
Saying my prayers with wounds, bloud, guts and hart,
Swearing and staring thus play I my parte.
If any powre man haue in a whole week earn'd a grote:
He shal spend it in one houre in tossing the pot.
I vse to call seruants and powre men to my company,
and make them spend all they haue vnthriftily.
So that my company they think to be so good:
that in short space their haire growes through their hood.
¶ But wil no gossips keep thee company now and than? N.
¶ Tush I am acquainted with many a woman. T.
That with me wil sit in euery house and place:
But then their husbands had need to fend their face.
For when they come home they wil not be a feard:
to shake the goodman, and sometime shaue his beard.
And as for seemily seruants I haue such a train:
that wil quaffe and carous, and therin spend their gain.
From week to week I haue this company.

Wherfore I am worthy to haue the patrimony.

n. ¶ Thus thou maist be called a knaue in graine,
And where knaues be scant thou maist goe for twaine.
But now Rafe Roister let me heare what thou canst say,

ster ✶ You know that Rafe roister I am called alway,
And my conditions in knauery so far doo surmount:
that to haue this patrimony I make mine account.
For I intice yong gentlemen all vertue to elchewe,
And to giue them to riotousnes, this is true,
Seruing men by me are also seduced:
that all in brauery their mindes are confused.
then if they haue not themselues to maintaine,
to pick and to steale they must be fain.
And I may say to you I haue such a traine:
that some time I pitch a feld on Salisbury plain.
And much more if need were I could say verily,
Wherfore I am worthy to haue the patrimony.

1. ¶ He that should iudge this matter had need haue more wit
But seeing you haue referred it vnto my arbitrement: (then I
In faith I wil giue such equall iudgement,
that both of you shall be wel pleased and contente.

ter ¶ Nay I haue not done for I can say much more,

1. ¶ Wel I will not haue you contend any more.
But this farme which to beggers manner doth appertaine,
I will equally deuide betweene you twaine.
Are you not content that so it shall be?
¶ As it pleaseth you so shall we agree.

1. ¶ Then see that anon you come bothe vnto me,

ter ¶ Sir for my parte I thank you hartely.
I promised of late to come vnto a company.
which at Hob filchers for me doo remain:
God be with you and anon I wil come again,
¶ Farwel brother Rafe I wil come to you anon.

Come

‡ Cum again for you shal not so sodainly be gon. Heer entreth Ne
see you not who cums yõder an old fred of yours hauice with a
One that is redy to quasse at all houres. pot & singeth
as foloweth.

He singeth the first two lines and speaketh the rest
as stammering as may be.

Quas in hart and quas again, and quas about the house a:
And tosse the black bole to and fro, and I drinks them all carous a.

¶ Be go go gogs nowns cha cha drunk so so much to day: Ha
That be be be masse I cham a moste drunk ich da da dare say.
Chud spe spe spend a gõ gõ gõd grote;
tha that ich cud bi binde my ca ca chaptain to to tom tospot.
¶ Sit down good haunce lest ỹ lye on ỹ ground. She sereth him Ne
he knoweth not tom tospot I dare ieopard xx.l. in the chaire.
¶ He will know me by and by I holde you a crown. T.
how dost thou seruant haunce: how commeth this to passe?
¶ Ma ma master to to tom cha cha cham glad by mas. Ha
Ca ca carouse to to thee gõ gõ gõd tom, he drinketh.
¶ Holde vp haunce I will pledg thee anon. T.
¶ Wel there is no remedy but I must be gone. R.
¶ Ta ta tary good below, a wo wo word or twaine: Ha
If tho tho thou thi selfdo do do not come again,
Bi bi bid Philip Fleming cu cu cum hether to me,
Vo vo vor he must lead me home now ich dow see.
¶ Then farwel Haunce I will remember thy errant, R.
he wilbe heer by and by I dare be his warrant. Exit R. Roister.
¶ Farwel Rafe roister with all my hart. Ne
Come anon and I will deliuer thee thy part.
¶ Now haunce right now thou drankst to me, T.
Drink again and I will pledge thee.
¶ Omni po po potenti, all the po po pot is emptie. Ha
¶ Why Haunce thou hast latin in thy belly me think, Ne
I thought there was no tõm for latin, there is so much drink.

¶ Ich le le lerud zome la la laten when ich was a la la lad,
Ich ca ca can zay tu es nebulo ich learnd of my dad.
And ich did once he he help the pze pze prest to zay masse,
By gis ma man ich ha bern cumming when t'was.
¶ I knew Haunce when he was as he saith,
For he was once a Scholler in good faith.
But through my company he was with drawn from thence,
through his riote and excessiue expence.
Unto this trade which now you dw in him se:
So that now he is wholy addicted to followe me.
And one of my garde he is now become:
Wel Haunce wel, thou wast once a white sonne.
¶ Now so God help me thou art a prity felowe Haunce,
A clene legged gentleman, and as proper a praunce.
As any I know betweeu this and Fraunce.
‡ Yes by by God ich cud once daunce,
‡ I speak of no dauncing little belied Haunce:
But seing thou saist thou canst so wel daunce.
Let me se where thou canst daunce liuely:
‡ Tha tha that ca ca can ich dw ful trimly.

He daunceth as euill fauoured as may be deuised, and in the dauncing he falleth down, and when he riseth he must grone.

¶ Rise again Haunce thou hadst almost got a fall:
But thou dauncest trimly leggs and all.
Body of me haunce how doth thy belly canst thou tel:
By the masse he hath beraid his breches me think by ẏ smell.
‡ I wil help thee vp Haunce giue me thy hand, He riseth.
‡ By by mas ch ch ch was almost down I think verily,
‡ Wast thou almost down haunce so thinke I.
But thou art sick me think by thy groning,
He grones like a beare when he is a moning.
Hark how his head aks and his pulses dw beat:

I think he will be hanged his belly is so great.
‡ Go go God a merry Tom with all my hart:
‡ If thou canst not leap Haunce, let me see thee drink a quart.
And get thee out abroad into the aire:
‡ Tush he had more need to keep his chaire.
Sit down Haunce and thou shalt see anon:
Philip fleming will come and fetch thee home.

Haunce sitteth in the Chaire, and snorteth as though he were fast a sleep.

‡ I pray thee Tom tospot is this one of thy men?
‡ He is a companion of mine now and then.
‡ By the faith of my body such Carpenter such chips,
And as the wise man saith, such lettice such lips.
For like maister like men, like tutor like Scholer,
And like will to like, quoth the deuil to the Collier.
‡ There is no remedy for it must needs so be,
Like will to like you may beleeue me.

Philip Fleming entreth with a Pot in his hand.

¶ Loe where Phillip Fleming commeth euen in pudding time:
‡ He bringeth in his hand either good ale or els good wine.

Phillip Fleming singeth these foure lines following.

Troll the bole and drink to me, and troll the bole again a:
And put a browne tost in the pot, for Phillip Flemmings brain a.
And I shall tosse it to and fro, euen round about the house a:
God hostice now let it be so I drinks them all carous a.

¶ Mary here is a pot of nappy good Ale,
As pure as Christall pure and stale.
Now a Crab in the fire were worth a good grote:
That I might quaffe with my captain Tom tospot.
What? I can no sooner wish, but by and by haue:
God saue mine eye sight me think I see a knaue.

what Captain how goeth the world with you?
¶ Why now I see the olde prouerb to be true:
Like will to like both with Christian turk and iew.
¶ Mary Phillip euen as I was wunt to do.
¶ Rafe Roister tolde me I should finde Haunce heere,
where is he that he doth not appeere?
¶ I holde twenty pound the knaue is blinde,
turn about Phillip Fleming and look behinde.
Hast thou drunk so much that thine eyes be out?
Lo how he snorteth like a lazy lout.
Goe to him for he slæpeth sound.
two such paunches in all England can scant be found.
¶ Why Haunce art thou in thy praiers so deuoutly?
awake man and we two will quaffe togither stoutly.
* Domine dominus noster:
We think I cha spide thæe knaues in a cluster.
¶ Stay a while for he saith his Pater noster,
Sanctum benedicitum what haue I dreamed?
By goggs nowns chad thought ich had bæn in my bed.
Cha dreamed such a dreame that thou wilt meruaile to heere,
Me thought ich was drowned in a barell of Beere.
And by and by the Barrel was turned to a Ship:
Which me thought the winde made liuely to skip.
And ich did sail therin from flaunders to Fraunce:
At last ich was brought hether among a sort of knaues by (chaunce
¶ Lo Haunce heer is Phillip Fleming come now,
we will goe drink togither now, how saist thou?
¶ I pray thæe good Wilip lead me away,
¶ Giue me thy hand and I will thæe stay.
¶ How say you maister Nichol will you kæp vs company?
¶ Goe before maister lickhole and I will come by and by.
Mates matched togither departe you thæe,
I will come after you may beleeue me.

they

They three are gone togither, and Nichole newfangle remaineth behinde, but he maie not speak til they be within.

* Ha ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,
Now three knaues are gone, and I am left alone:
my selfe heere to solace:
Well dun gentle Ione, why begin you to mone?
though they be gone I am in place.
And now I wil daunce, now will I praunce,
For why I haue none other worke:
Snip snap Butter is no bone meat:
knaues flesh is no Porke.
Hey tisty tosty an Oie is a bird,
Jack a napes hath an olde face:
You may beleeue me at one bare word,
how like you this merie case?
A peece of ground, they think they haue found,
I will tel you what it is:
For I them tolde that of beggars manner it hild holde,
a staffe and a wallet I wis.
Which in short space, euen in this place,
of me they shall receiue:
For when that their drift, hath spent all their thrift,
their mindes I shall deceiue.
I trowe you shall see more knaues come to me,
which whensoeuer they dw:
they shall haue their meed, as they deserue indeed.
as you shal shortly see these two.
When they do pretend to haue a good end,
mark wel then what shall insue:
A Bag and a Bottle, or els a Rope knottle,
this shall they proue to true.
But mark wel this geare, I see this geer fraine.

Lo who cometh now in such haste.
It is Cutbert cutpurse and Pierce pickpurse,
Giue room now a litle caste.

Heere entreth Cutbert cutpurse and Pierce pickpurse, Cutbert cutpurse must haue in his hand a purse of money or Counters in it, and a knife in one hand and a whetstone in the other, and Pierce must haue money or counters in his hand and gingle it as he commeth in.

¶ By Gogs woundes it doth me good to the hart:
to see how cleanly I plaid this parte.
While they stod thrusting togither in the throng:
I began to goe them among.
And with this knife which heere you doo see:
I cut away his purse cleanly.
‡ See to your purses my maisters be ruled by me.
For knaues are abroad therfore beware:
You are warned and ye take not heed, I doo not care.
‡ And also so soon as I had espied,
A woman in the throng whose purse was fat:
I took it by the strings and cleanly it untide,
She knew no more of it, then Gib our Cat.
Yet at the last she hied apace,
And said the money in my hand she saw:
Thou whore said I, I will haue an action of the case,
And seeing thou saist so I will trye the lawe.
‡ How saist thou Pierce pickpurse art thou not agreed:
these two bowties equally to deuide,
‡ Then let vs count the totall summe,
And deuide it equally when we haue done.
‡ My maisters heere is a good fellowe that would faine haue some.
‡ What Nicole Newtangle be you heere:
So God help me I am glad with all my hart:

¶ Then ere we depart we will haue some cheere. Pie
And of this booty you shall haue your parte. pic
¶ I thank you both hartely. Ne
And I will do somewhat for you by and by:
Are not you two sworn brothers in euery booty?
‡ Yes that we are truely. Bo
‡ Then will I tell you newes which you do not knowe: Nu
Such newes as will make you glad I trowe.
But first tel me this Pierce Pickpurse,
Whether is the elder thou or Cutbert cutpurse.
¶ In faith I think we are both of one age well nye. P.
¶ I suppose there is no great difference truely. C.
But wherfore aske you? I pray thee tell me why,
¶ I will tell you the cause without delay, N.
For a peece of land is fallen as I heare say.
A proper plot it is this is most true.
which by succession must come to one of you.
For thou Cutbert Cutpurse, wast Cutbert cutthroates sonne,
And thou Pierce pickpurse, by that time thou hast don,
Canst deriue thy pedigree from an ancient house:
thy father was cal thief, thy mother cal louse.
This peece of land wherto you inheritours are,
Is called the land of the two legged mare.
In this peece of ground there is a mare in deed:
Which is the quickest mare in England for spede.
Therfore if you will come anon vnto me:
I will put you in possession and that you shall see. C.
¶ I cannot beleeue that such luck is happened vnto vs. Ni
‡ It is true that I to you do discusse. P.
¶ If you will help vs to this peece of ground:
Both of vs to you shal think our selues bound.
¶ Yes in faith you shall haue it, you may beleeue me, N
I will be as good as my word, as shortly you shall see.

Then brother Pierce we may think our selues happy,
that euer we were with him acquainted:
¶ Euen so we may of certaintie,
that such good luck vnto vs hath happened.
But brother Cutbert is it not best,
to goe in for a while and distribute this booty:
where we three wil make some feast.
And quaffe togither and be merry.
¶ What say you Nichol: I am agree,

Heere entreth Vertuous liuing.

¶ But soft a while be ruled by me,
Lok yonder a little doo you not see.
Who commeth yonder: a while we wil abide,
Let him say his pleasure and we wil stand aside.
¶ Oh gratious God how wonderfull are thy works:
how highly art thou of all men to be praised:
Of Christians, Sarasins, Iewes and also Turks,
thy glory ought to be erected and raised
What ioye hast thou prepared for the vertuous life,
And such as haue thy name in loue and awe:
thou hast promised saluation to man, Childe and wife,
that thy precepts obserue and keep wel thy law.
And to the vertuous life what doth insue:
Vertutis premium honor Tully doth saye:
Honour is the guerdon for vertue due,
And eternall saluation at the latter day.
How cleere in conscience is the vertuous life:
the vicious hath consciences so heauy as lead:
their conscience and their doings is alway at strife:
And although they liue: yet in sin they are dead.
¶ God giue you good morow sir, how doo you to day:
¶ God blesse you also both now and alway.
I pray you both me haue you for my acquaintance here:

¶ Yea mary I am an olde frend of yours perchaunce. N
¶ If it be so I meruaile very much, V
That the dulnes of my wit should be such.
That you should be altogither out of my memory,
tell me your name I pray you hartely.
¶ By the faith of my body you will appose me by and by. N
But indeed I was but little when I was first borne,
And my mother to tell me my name thought it scorne.
¶ I will neuer acquaint me with such in any place, V
As are ashamed of their names by Gods grace.
¶ I remember my name now it is come to minde, N
I haue mused much before I could it finde.
Nicholle newfangle it is, I am your olde frend.
¶ My frend mary I do the defye, V
And all such company I do deny.
For thou art a companion for roisters and ruffins,
And not fit for any vertuous companions.
¶ And in faith art thou at plaine defiaunce? N
then I see I must goe to mine olde acquaintaunce. (gither
Will Cuthert cutpurse and Pierce pickpurse, we must goe to-
For like will to like quoth the Deuil to the Collier.
¶ Indeed thou saist true it must nads be so, V
For like will euer to like goe.
And my conditions and thine so farre do disagree,
That no familiarity betwen vs may be.
For thou nourishest vice both day and night,
My name is vertuous life and in vertue is my delight.
So vice and vertue cannot togither be united,
But the one the other hath alwaies spighted.
For as water quencheth fier and the flame doth suppres,
So vertue hateth vice and seeketh a redres.
¶ Tush if he be so dangerous let vs not him esteem, P
And he is not for our company I see very wel:

For if he be so holy as he doth seem,
We and he differ as much as Heauen and Hell.
¶ You knowe that like will to like alway.
And you see how holily he is now bent:
To seek his company why do we assay?
I promise you, do you what you will, I will not consent.
For I passe not for him be he better or be he worse,
¶ Friend if you be wise beware of your purse.
For this fellow may do you good when all comes to all,
If you chaunce to lose your purse in Cutpurse hall.
But in faith fare ye wel sith of our company you be wery:
we will goe to a place where we will make mery.
For I see your company and ours do far differ,
For like will to like quoth the Deuil to the Colier.
¶ Well let vs be gon and did him adue:
For I see this prouerb proueth very true.
¶ Then let vs goe to Hob filchers house,
where we will be mery and quaffe carous.
And there shall we finde Tom tospot with other moe,
Whatinates for vs therfore let vs goe.
¶ Then seeing we are all of one minde:
Let vs three go and leaue a knaue here behinde, Exeunt they iij.

They sing this song as they goe out from the place.

¶ Good hostes lay a Crab in the fire, and broil a messe of Sous a:
That we may toste the bole to and fro, and drinke them all carous a
¶ And I will pledge Tom tospot til I be as drunk as a mouse a:
Who so will drink to me all day, I will pledge them all carous a.
¶ Then we will not spare for any cost, so long as we be in a house a:
Then hostes fil the pot again, for I pledge them all carous a. Finis.

¶ Oh wicked imps that haue such delight,
In euil conuersation wicked and abhominable:
And from vertues lore withdraw your selues quite,
And lean to vice most vile and detestable.
How prone and redy we are vice to mise,

How

How dere we be good counsaile to heare?
How straunge we make it our harts to renue?
How little we haue Gods threats in feare?
When this is spoken he must pause and then say as followeth.
Saint Augustine saith in his 5. booke de ciuitate Dei,
Coniuncta sunt edes Vertutis et honoris (saith he)
The house of Vertue and Honour ioyned togither be.
And so the way to Honours house is disposed,
that through vertues house he must nedes passe:
Or elle from honour he shall soone be deposed,
and brought to that point that he before was.
But if through vertue honour be attained:
The path to saluation may soon be gained.
Some there be that doo fortune prefer,
Some estem pleasure more then vertuous life:
But in mine opinion all such doo erre,
For vertue and fortune be not at strife.
Where vertue is, fortune must nedes growe:
But fortune without vertue hath soon the ouerthrowe.
Thrise happy are they that doo vertue imbrace,
For a Crowne of glory shall be their reward:
Sathan at no time may him any thing deface,
For God ouer him will haue such regarde.
That his foes he shall soon tread vnder his foot:
And by Gods permission, pluck them vp by the root.
It boteth not vice against vertue to stur,
For why vice is fraile and of no force:
But Virtus eterna preclaraque habentur.
wherfore I would all men would haue a remorse.
And eschue euil company vile and pernicious.
And as the end of vertue is honour and felicitie,
So mark wel the end of wickednes and vice:
Shame in this world and pain eternally,

¶ Wherfore you that are here learn to be wise.
And the end of the one, with the other waye:
By that time you haue heard the end of this play.
But why do I thus much lay in the praise of Vertue?
Sith the thing praise worthy need no praise at all:
It praiseth it self sufficiently this is true,
¶ Which chaseth away sinne as bitter as gall.
And where Vertue is, it need not to be prais'd:
For the renowne therof shall soon be raised.
¶ Oh vertuous life God rest you mery,
to you I am come to attend,
¶ God fame you are welcome hartely,
I pray you who did you hether send?
¶ Euen Gods promise hath sent me vnto you,
willing me not from you to depart:
But alwaies to giue attendance due,
And in no wise from you to start.
For god of his promise hath most liberally,
Sent me good fame to you Vertuous life:
¶ Wherby it may be seene manifestly,
Gods great zeale to vertue both in man and wife.
For why they may be sure that I good Fame,
From the Vertuous life will stray:
Wherby honour and renown may grow to their name,
And eternall saluation at the latter day.
¶ God is gratious and full of great mercy,
To such as in vertue set their whole delight:
Powring his benefites vpon them aboundantly:
Oh man what meanest thou with sautour to fight?
Come vnto him for he is full of mercy.
The fountain of vertue and of godlines the spring,
Come vnto me and thou shalt liue euerlastingly:
He doth not require the any price to bring.

Intrat good fame

Venite ad me omnes qui laboratis onerati estis
et ego reficiam vos.

Come vnto me ye that trauaile (saith he,
And such as with sinne are heuily laden:
And of my selfe refreshed you shall be.
Repent, repent, your deeds shall be down troden,
Wel Good Fame sith God of his goodnes,
Hath hether sent you on me to attend:
Let vs giue thanks to him with humblenes,
And perswade with all men their liues to amend.
¶ Vertuous life thereto I doo agree, Goo
For it becommeth all men to doo so:
But beholde yonder commeth Gods promise as seemeth to me,
And honour with him commeth also.
¶ Such godly company liketh me very wel: { Enter gods promises and Honour with him. Ver
for vicio⁹ mē frō our cōpany we would expel
¶ God rest you mery both, and God be your good guide: Goo
¶ We are now come to the place where we must abide, Hon
For from you Vertuous life, I honour may not slide.
¶ I am Gods promise which is a thing etern, Goo
And nothing more surer then his promises may be:
A sure foundation to such as wil learn,
Gods precepts to obserue then must they needs see.
Honour in this world, and at last a Crown of glorye,
Euer in ioy and mirth, and neuer to be sory.
Wherfore oh Veurtuous life to thee we doo repaire,
As messengers from God, his promise to fulfil:
And therfore sit you downe in this Chaire,
For to indue you with honour it is Gods promise and wil.

Vertuous liuing sitteth downe in the Chaire.

¶ Now take this swoord in hand as a token of victorye, Ho
This Crowne from my head to you I shall giue:
I crowne you with it as one moste woorthy.

And se that all vice ye dow punish and greue,
For in this world I honour with you shall remain.
And good fame from you cannot refrain:
And after this life a greater Crown you shall attain.
¶ What hart can think: or what tung can expresse
The great godnes of God which is almightye:
who seeth this, and seeketh not vice to suppresse,
Honour, good fame, yea and life euerlastingly.
Thy name be praised oh Lord therfore:
And to thee only be glory and honour.
¶ Sith Gods promise hath brought honour in to this place,
I will for a while leaue you three alone:
For I must depart now for a litle space,
But I shal come to you again anon. Exit Good fame.
¶ Gods promise is infallible, his word is most true,
And to ground theron a man may be bolde:
As Scripture doth testifye and declare vnto you,
On which foundation your building you may beholde.
For vertuous rulers the frut of felicitie dow reap:
And the reward of fame, & honour to themselues they heap.
¶ Seing we haue now indued him with ỹ crown and sword,
Which is due vnto him by Gods promise and word:
Let vs three sing vnto God with one accord.
¶ To sing praises vnto God it liketh wel me:
¶ And I also with you therto dow agree.
A pleasant noise to Gods eares it must needs bring:
That Gods promise, Honour, and Vertuous life dow sing.

They sing this song folowing.

This must be sung after euery verse.

Life is but short hope we not therein,
Vertue immortall seek for to win.

Who so to vertue doth apply,
Good Fame and Honour must obtaine:
And also liue eternally,
For Vertuous life this is the gaine.
Life is but shorte, &c.

Gods promise sure will neuer faile,
His holy word is a perfect ground,
The forte of vertue oh man assaile,
Where tresure alway doth abound.
Life is but short, &c.

To thée alone be laud and praise,
Oh Lord thou art so merrifull:
Who neuer failed at all assaies,
To aid and help the pitifull.
Life is but short hope not therin.

FINIS. Exeunt omnes

Heere entreth Nichole Newfangle, and bringethin with him a Bagge, a Staffe, a Bottle, and two halters, going about the place shewing it to the audience, and singing this.

Trim marchandise trim trim, trim marchandise trim trim,
He may sing this as oft as he thinketh good.
¶ Mary heer is merchandise who list for to buy any, New
Come see for your loue and buy for your money.
This is the land which I must distribute anon:
According to my promise or I begon.
For why Tom tospot since he went hence:
Hath increased a Noble iust vnto nine pence.
And Rafe roister, it may none otherwise be chosen:
Hath brought a pack of wul to a faire paire of hosen.
This is good thrift learn it who shall:
And now a couple of felowes, are come, from cutpurse hall:
And there haue they brought many a purse to wrack:
Loe heer is geer that wil make their necks to crack.

For I promised Tom tospot and Rafe roister a peece of Land,
Loe heere it is redy in my right hand.
A wallet and Bottle, but it is not to be solde:
I tolde them before that of beggers maner it did holde.
And for Cutbert Cutpurse, and Pierce Pickpurse heere is
This is the land of the two legged Mare. (good fare,
Which I to them promised and deuide it with discretion:
Shortly you shall see I will put them in possession.
How like you this Marchandise my maisters is not this
A wallet, a Bottle, a Stake and a String. (trim:
In faith Rafe roister is in good case as I suppose,
For he hath lost all that he hath, saue his Doublet and his
And tom tospot is euen at the same poynte: (Hose,
For he would lose a Lim or ieopard a ioynt.
But beholde yonder they come bothe, now all is gone and
I know their errand and what is their intent. (spent,

Heere entreth Rafe Roister and Tom Tospot in their Dublet and their Hose, and no Cap nor Hat on their head, hauing a night Cap because the strings of the beards may not be seene, and Rafe Roister must curse and ban as he commeth in.

¶ Wel, be as be may is no banning,
But I feare that when this geere shall come to scanning.
The land to the which we did wholy trust:
Shall be gone from vs and we cast in the dust.
er. ¶ Gogs blood if Nichol newfangle serue vs so:
we may say that we haue had a shrewd blowe.
For all that I had is now lost at dice,
My Sword, my Buckler and all at sink and sice,
My Cote, my Cloke, and my Hat also,
And now in my Dublet and my Hose I am faine to goe.
Therfore if Nichol newfangle help not now at a pinch:

I am vndon for land I haue not an inch.
¶ By Gogs wounds euen so it is with me: T
I am in my doublet and my hose as ye see.
For all that I had doth lye at pledge for Me:
By the masse I am as bare as my naile.
Not a Crosse of money to blesse me haue I,
But I trow we shall meet with Nichol newfangle by and by.
¶ Turn hether turn hether, I say sir knaue: N
For I am euen he that you so fain would haue.
¶ What: Maister Nichole are you here all this whyle: R
¶ I think I am here or els I dow thee begile. N
¶ So God help me I am glad that you be in sight: T
For in faith your presence hath made my hart light.
¶ I wil make it lighter anon I trowe: N
My maisters I haue a piece of land for you, dow you not knowe:
¶ Mary that is the cause of our hether resort: R
For now we are void of all ioy and comfort.
¶ You see in what care we now stand in, T
And you heard vs also euen now I wean.
Wherfore good maister Nichol let vs haue this land now:
And we shall think our selues much bound vnto you.
¶ You know that I this land must deuide, N
Which I shall dow but a whyle abide.
All thy goods for Me at pledge be:
And thou saist a paire of Dice hath made thee free.
First Rafe Roister come thou vnto me.
Because thou hast lost euery whit at dice, { He giueth the bag to R. roister and the bottle to T. Tospot.
take ỹ this bag to cary Bread and cheese.
And take thou this bottle and mark what I shall say:
If he chaunce to eat the bread and Cheese by the way.
Dow thou in this matter follow my counsel:
Drink vp the drink and knock him about the head with the
And because that Rafe is the Elder knaue: (bottle
This

this staffe also of me thou shalt haue:
ler ¶ But where is the land that to vs you promised:
1. ¶ In faith good fellowes my promise is performed.
: ¶ By Gogs blood I thought that it would be so,
1. ¶ This must you haue whether you wil or no.
Or els fall to worke with Shouel and with spade:
For begging now must be your cheefest trade.
ler ¶ Gods hart can I away with this like:
To beg my bread from doore to doore:
I wil rather cut my throte with a knife,
then I will liue thus beggerly and poore.
By Gogs blood rather then I wil it assay:
I wil rob and steale, and keep the hye way.
: ¶ Wel Rafe roister seeing we be in this miserie,
And labour we cannot and to beg it is a shame:
Yet better it is to beg most shamfully,
then to be hanged and to theuery our selues to frame.
v. ¶ Now my masters learn to beware:
But like will to like quod the Deuil to the Collier.
er. ¶ Oh Lord why did not I consider this before,
what should of roisting be the finall end:
Now the horsse is stolen I shut the stable doore,
Alas that I had time my life to amend.
Time I haue I must needs confesse,
But yet in misery that time must be spent:
Seeing that my life I would not reforme,
But wholy in riot I haue it all spent.
Wherfore I am now brought to this exigent.
But the time past cannot be called again this is no nay,
wherfore all you heere take example by me:
Time tarieth no man but passeth stil away,
take time while time is for time doth flee:
Vse wel your youthfull yeres and to vertues lore agree.

For

For if I to vertue had any respect,
this misfortune to me could not haue chaunced:
But because vnto vice I was a subiect,
to no good fame may I now be aduaunced.
My credit also is now quite staunched.
Wherfore I would all men my wofull case might see:
that I to them a mirrour might be.
¶ Oh all ye parents to you I now say, T.
Haue respect to your Children and for their education:
Least you answere therfore at the latter day,
And your need shall be eternall damnation.
If my parents had brought me vp in vertue and learning,
I should not haue had this shamefull end:
But all licenciously was my vp bringing,
wherfore learn by me your faults to amend.
But neither in vertue, learning, nor yet honest trade:
was I bred vp my liuing for to get:
therfore in misery my life away must fade,
For vicious persons beholde not the net.
I am in the snare I am caught with the gin:
And now it is too late, I cannot again begin.
¶ This geare would haue bæn looked too before: N.
But now my maisters you are vpon the shore.
Be packing I say and get you hence:
Learn to say I pray good maister giue me nine pence.
¶ Thou villain art only the cauler of this woe: R.
therfore thou shalt haue some thing of me ere I goe.
¶ Thou hast giuen me a Bottle hære: T.
But thou shalt drink first of it be it Ale or beere.

Rafe roister beateth him with the staffe, and Tom Tospot with the bottell.

¶ Take this of me before I goe hence, R.
¶ Take this of me in parte of recompence. T.

¶ Now am I driuen to play the maister offence.
Come no nere me you knaues for your life:
At least I stick you both with this wood knife. { They haue him
Back I say back thou sturdy beggar: { doun & beat him
body of me they haue tane away my daggar { he crieth for help
¶ Now in faith you whorson take hæd I counduise:
How you dwany moze yong men intice.
¶ Now farwell thou hast thy iust mæd:
¶ Now we goe a begging God send vs good spæd.

Rafe roister and Tom Tospot goeth out, and Seueritie the Iudge entreth, And Nichol Newfangle lieth on the ground groning.

¶ That vpright iudgement without partialitie,
Be ministred duely to ill dwers and offenders:
I am one whose name is Seueritie,
Appointed a Judge to suppresse euil dwers.
Not for hatred nor yet for malice:
But to aduaunce vertue and suppresse vice.
Wherfore Isidorus these words doth say:
Non est Iudex si in eo non est Iusticia.
He is not a Judge that Justice doth want:
But he that trueth and equitie doth plant.
Tully all these words doth expresse:
which words are very true doubtlesse.
Semper iniquus est, qui aut inuidet aut fauet,
They are vnright full Judges all:
that are either, enuious or els partiall.
¶ Help me vp good sir for I haue got a fall.
¶ What cause haue you my freend thus heauily to grone
¶ Oh sir I haue good cause to make great mone.
Here were two fellowes but right now:
That I think haue killed me I make God a vow.
I pray you tel me, am I aliue or am I dead?

Fellowe

¶ Fellowe it is more need for thee to be in thy bed. S
Then to lye heere in such sort as thou doost:
¶ In faith I should haue laid some of the knaues in the dust. N
If I had had your sword right now in presence:
I would hrue had a leg or an arme ere they had gon hence.
¶ Who is it that hath doon thee this iniury? S
¶ A couple of beggers haue doon me this vilany. N
¶ I see if seueritie should not be executed, S
One man should not liue by another:
If such iniuries should not be confuted.
The Childe would not regard Father nor mother.
Giue me thy hand and I wil help thee,
¶ Hold fast your sword then I pray you hartely. He riseth. N
¶ Now freend it appeereth vnto me: S
That you haue been a trauailer of the Cuntrie.
And such as doo trauaile doo heare of things doon:
Aswel in the cuntrie as in the Citie of London.
How say you my freend can you tel any newes?
¶ That can I, for I came lately from the stewes. N
There are knaues abroad you may beleeue me.
As in this place shortly you shall see.
No more words but mum and stand a while aside:
Yonder commeth two knaues therfore abide.

Enter Cutbert Cutpurse and Pierce Pickpurse.

¶ By gogs wounds if he help not now we are vndoon, C.
By the mas for my part I wot not where to run.
We be so pursued on euery side:
that by gogs hart I wot not where to abide.
Euery Constable is charged to make priuy search:
So that if we may be got, we shalbe thrown ouer the perch.
¶ If Nichol newfangle help not now in our need: P.
we are like in our busines ful euil to speed.
therfore let vs make no more delay,

Bur reck him out of hand and be gone away,
¶ Soft my maisters a while I you pray,
For I am heer for whom you bw seek:
For you know that like wil neuer from like.
I promised you of late a pece of land:
which by and by shall fall into your hand.
rs ¶ What maister Nichol, how bw you to day?
‡ For the passion of God maister Nichol help to rid bs away,
And help bs to the land wherof you did say.
that we might make money of it by and by:
For out of the Realm we purpose to flee.
‡ Mary I wil help you I swere by allhallowes:
I wil not part from you till you come to the gallowes.
Lo noble Seueritie these be they without doubt,
On whom this rumor of theeuery is gon about.
Therfore my maisters heer is the snare:
that shall lead you to the land called the two legged mare.
He putteth about each of their necks an Halter.
¶ My freend holde them fast in that plight:
‡ Then come and help me with your sword, for I feare they (wil fight.
‡ Striue not my maisters for it shall not auaile:
But a while giue eare vnto my counsaile.
Your owne words haue condemned you for to dye:
therfore to God make you your selues redy.
And by and by I will send one which for your abusion,
Shall lead you to the place of execution.
‡ Help to tye their hãds before ye be gon. He helpeth to tye them
‡ Now they are bound I wil send one to you anon. Exit
‡ Ah my maisters how like you this play?
You shall take possession of your land to day.
I will help to bridle the two legged mare,
And both you for to ride need not to spare.

Now

Now so God help me I swere by this Bread,
I meruaile who shall play the knaue when you twain be dead.
¶ Oh cursed caitiue borne in an ill hower,
Woe vnto me that euer I did thee knowe:
For of all iniquitie thou art the bowre,
the seed of Sathan thou dost alwaies sowe.
thou only hast giuen me the ouerthrowe.
Woe worth the house wherin I was borne,
woe worth the time that euer I knew thee,
For now in misery I am forlorne.
Oh all youth take example by me.
Flee from euill company as from Serpent ye would flee:
For I to you all a mirrour may be.
I haue been daintily and delicately bred,
But nothing at all in vertues lore:
And now I am but a man dead,
Hanged I must be which greeueth me full sore.
Note well the end of me therfore.
And you that fathers and Mothers be:
Bring not vp your Children in to much libertie,
¶ Sith that by the law we are condemned,
Let vs call to God for his mercie and grace:
And exhort that all vice may be amended,
while we in this world haue time and space.
And though our liues haue licentiously been spent,
Yet at the last to God let vs call:
For he heareth such as are ready to repent,
And desireth not that sinners should fall.
Now are we ready to suffer, come when it shall.

Heer entreth Hankin Hangman.

¶ Come Hankin hangman let vs two cast lots,
And between vs deuide a couple of coates.
take thou the one and the other shalbe mine:

Come Hankin Hangman thou canst in good time.

They take off their Cotes and deuide them.

¶ Thou shouldst haue one (Nichol) I swere by the masse:
For thou bringest worke for me dayly to passe.
And through thy means I get more cotes in a yeere:
then all my liuing is worth beside, I swere.
Therfor Nichol newfangle we depart neuer,
For like will to like quoth the Deuil to the Collier.
¶ Now farwel Hankin hangman, farwel to thee:
¶ Farwel Nichol newfangle come you two with me.

Hankin goeth out and leadeth the one in his right hand, and the other in his left, hauing halters about their necks.

¶ Ha, ha, ha, there is a brace of houndswel worth a dozen
be holde the huntsman leadeth away: (Crowns
I think in twenty towns, on hills and eke on downs,
they taken haue their pray.
So well liked was their hunting on hill and eke on mountain,
that now they be vp in a leace:
To keep within a string it is now a gay thing,
dow all you holde your peace.
Why then good gentle boy, how likest thou this play?
no more but say thy minde:
I swere by this day, if thou wilt this assay,
I will to thee be kinde.
This is wel wrought to passe of me I swere by the masse,
some to hang and other some to beg:
I would I had Balams asse to carry me where I was,
how say you little Meg.
Rafe roister and Tom tospot are not now worth a grote.
So wel with them it is:
I would I had a pot for now I am so whot,
by the masse I must goe pisse.
Philip Fleming and Haunce hath daunst a pritty daunce,

that

that all is now ſpent out:
And now a great miſchaunce came on while they did prannce,
they lye ſick of the gout.
And in a ſpittle houſe, with little Laurence louſe,
they be faine to dwell:
if they eate a morſel of louce, or els a roſted mouce,
they think they dw fare well.
But as for pierce pickpurſe, and cutbert cutpurſe,
you ſaw them both right now:
with them it is much wurſe, for they dw ban and curſe,
for the halter ſhall them bow.
Now if I had my nag, to ſee the world wag.
I would ſtraight ride about:
Ginks dw fil the bag, I would not paſſe a rag,
to hit you on the ſnout.

Heer entreth the Deuil.

¶ Ho, ho, ho, mine own boy make no more delay,
But leap vpon my back ſtraight way.
¶ Then who ſhall holde my ſtirrop while I goe to horſe?
¶ Tuſh for that dw thou not force,
Leap vp I ſay, leap vp quickly.
¶ Who ball who, and I will come by and by.
Now for a paire of ſpurs I would giue a good grote:
to try whether the iade doth amble or trot.
Farwel my maiſters til I come again:
For now I muſt make a iourney into Spaine.

He rideth away on the deuils back.

Heer entreth Vertuous life and Honour.

‡ Oh worthy Diadem, oh iewel moſt precious.
Oh vertue which doth all worldly things excell:
How worthy a treaſure thou art to the vertuous
thy praiſe no pen can write ne tung tel,

For I who am called vertuous life,
Haue in this world both honour and dignitie:
Immortall fame of man, childe and wife,
Dayly waiteth and attendeth on me.
The commoditie of vertue in me you may behold,
the enormities of vice you haue also seene:
Therfore to make an end we may be bolde,
And pray for our noble and vertuous Quene.
‡ To do so vertuous life it is our bounden dutye,
And because we must do so before we do end,
To aid vs therin God fame commeth verily,
which dayly and hourely on you doth attend.

Heer entreth Good fame.

¶ Vertuous life do what you list.
to pray or to sing I wil you assist.
¶ O Lord of hostes, oh King almightye,
Poure down thy grace vpon our noble Quene:
Vanquish her foes Lord that dayly and nightly,
through her thy lawes may be sincerely seen.
‡ The honourable Counsaile also O Lord preserue,
The Lords both of the Clergie and of the temporalitie:
Graunt that with meeknes they may thee serue,
Submitting to thee with all humilitie.
¶ Oh Lord preserue the commons of this Realme also,
Poure vpon them thy heauenly grace:
To aduaunce vertue and vice to ouerthrow we,
that at the last in Heauen with thee they may haue a place.

AMEN.

FINIS. q. Vlpian Fulwell.

A Song

A Song.

WHere like to like is matched so,
that vertue must of force decay:
There God with vengeance, plagues and woe,
by iudgement iust must nedes repay.
For like to like the worldlings cry:
Although both like no grace deffye.

¶ And where as Sathan planted hath,
in vicious mindes a sinful trade:
There like to like doth walke this path,
by which to him, like they are made.
So like with like reward obtain:
To haue their med in endles paine.

¶ Likewise in faith where matched be,
and where as God hath planted grace:
There do his children still agree,
and like to like do run their race.
Like Christe like harts of Christian men:
As like to like wel coupled then.

¶ Therfore like grace, like faith and loue,
like vertue springs of eche degree:
Where like assistance from aboue,
doth make them like so right agree.
A holy God, a Christe most iust:
And so like soules in him to trust.

¶ Then like as Christe aboue doth raigne,
in heauen high our sauiour best:
So like with him shal be our gain,
in peace, and ioy, and endles rest.
If we our selues like him do frame:
In feare of his most holy name.

¶ To him be praise that grace doth giue,
wherby he fashioneth vs a new:
And make vs holily to liue,
like to him self in faith most true.
Which our redemption sure hath wrought:
Like him to be most derly bought.

FINIS.

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